

Dear Sir:

I am writing in response to your request for additional information. When *I was filling* out block number 3 of the accident reporting form, I **wrote** "working alone" as the cause of my accident. You **said** in your letter that I should explain more fully, and I hope these details will be sufficient.

I am a bricklayer. On the day of the accident, *I was working alone* on the top of a new six story building. When I **completed** my work, I **discovered** that about 500 pounds of brick *were lying* on the floor. Rather than carry the bricks down by hand, I **decided** to lower them in a barrel using a pulley that *was attached* to the side of the building at the sixth floor.

I **tied** the rope at ground level, and I **went** up to the roof, **swung** the barrel about and **loaded** the brick into it. Then I **went back** to the ground and **untied** the rope. *I was holding* it tight to assure a slow descent of the 500 pounds of bricks. You will remember that in block 11 of the accident reporting form I **wrote** that *I weighed* 135 pounds.

Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I **lost** my presence of mind, and I **forgot** to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I **ascended** at a rather rapid rate up the side of the building.

In the vicinity of the third floor, as *I was going up*, I **met** the barrel as *it was coming down*. This explains the fractured skull and broken collarbone.

I **continued** up rapidly, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time I **came to**, and I **managed** to hold tightly to the rope in spite of my pain.

At approximately the same time, however, as *I was hanging* by my hand, the barrel of bricks **hit the ground**, and **the bottom fell out** of the barrel. Empty, *the barrel now weighed* approximately 50 pounds. You will recall that *I weighed* 135 pounds. As you might imagine, I **began** a rapid descent down the side of the building.

In the vicinity of the third floor, as *I was going down*, I **met** the barrel as *it was coming up*. This explains the two fractured ankles and the lacerations on my legs and lower body.

Because of the encounter with the barrel, *I was going* slowly enough to lessen the injuries when I **fell** onto the pile of bricks and fortunately, I **only cracked** three vertebrae.

I'm sorry to report, however, that as *I was lying* there on the bricks, in pain, unable to get up, *I was watching* the barrel six stories above me, and again I **lost** my presence of mind. I **let go** of the rope.